

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all previous claims, and listings of claims, in the application.

1. **(Currently Amended):** A steering apparatus comprising:
 - a steering drive shaft capable of moving in an axial direction in response to a steering operation;
 - a housing accommodating the steering drive shaft and having a tube part extending in a long axis direction of the steering drive shaft;
 - a bracket formed as a single molded piece and having a fitting hole into which said tube part is fitted in a co-axial direction of the tube part and which said tube part penetrates and configured to attach said housing to a car body; and
 - a bearing member fitted inside the tube part, and supporting the steering drive shaft, and wherein

said bracket has a recess in said fitting hole, the recess being a circular groove, and
said tube part has ~~at least one~~ a plurality of escape preventing ~~protrusion~~ protrusions bent into said recess and extending in a radial direction of the tube part, for preventing said bracket from escaping.
2. **(Cancelled)**
3. **(Previously Presented):** The steering apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said tube part is metal.
4. **(Cancelled)**
5. **(Cancelled)**

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended): A steering apparatus comprising:

a steering drive shaft capable of moving in an axial direction in response to a steering operation;

a housing accommodating the steering drive shaft and having a tube part extending in a long axis direction of the steering drive shaft; and

a bracket formed as a single molded piece and having a fitting hole into which said tube part is fitted in a co-axial direction of the tube part, the bracket and attaching said housing to a car body, and wherein

said bracket has a recess in said fitting hole, the recess being a circular groove, and said tube part has at least one a plurality of escape preventing protrusion-protrusions bent into said recess and extending in a radial direction of the tube part, for preventing said bracket from escaping.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended): The steering apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the recess is pre-formed in the bracket prior to the bending into of the at least one plurality of escape preventing protrusion-protrusions.

10. (Currently Amended): The steering apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the at least one plurality of escape preventing protrusion-protrusions bent into said recess permanently prevents prevent said bracket from escaping.